



michoud messenger

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MAF Welcomes Blade Dynamics

NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility is getting a new tenant, Blade Dynamics, this fall. Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal and New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu joined Marshall Space Flight Center Director Robert Lightfoot in making the announcement Aug. 17 inside building 303 at Michoud.

"This is the next chapter in this storied facility that has done so much for NASA and this nation," said Lightfoot.

"This is a huge win for New Orleans and our whole state," said Jindal. "By recruiting Blade Dynamics and its revolutionary wind power technologies to Louisiana, we are creating hundreds of high-paying new jobs in New Orleans while diversifying the economy of this region."

Blade co-founder Theo Botha said building 303 will soon be Blade Dynamics' headquarters and will manufacture the world's most advanced wind turbine blades.

"These will have a very positive impact on the environment and create hundreds of skilled jobs here in Louisiana," said Botha. He added that NASA, the state

and the Jacobs team were vital in bringing Blade to Michoud.

"While this is significant for the state and the local area in terms of jobs, green energy and tax revenue, it is an even more significant accomplishment on the part of the NASA and Jacobs team," said Steve Doering, MAF Manager.

Gov. Jindal said Blade will

eventually employ 600 workers at Michoud and create hundreds of secondary jobs. Louisiana Economic Development provided an incentive package worth up to \$30 million to help bring Blade to MAF.

Blade is partnering with Dow Chemical and American Superconductor Corp. on the project.



Gov. Bobby Jindal, New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu, Marshall Space Flight Center Director Robert Lightfoot and Michoud Facility Transition Manager and Acting Chief Operating Officer Steve Doering welcome Blade Dynamics to Michoud Aug. 17.

Employees at MAF,

Thank you all for your support of the Business Development team's efforts to market Michoud Assembly Facility. By making continuous improvements and helping transition this site into NASA's vision of a commercially friendly, multi-tenant community, you helped generate huge amounts of interest in the site. In fact, thus far in 2010, we have held meetings or tours with more than 120 prospect tenants. These prospects represent the potential for literally thousands of new jobs on-site and the potential for other economy of scale improvements going forward.

But for right now, please join with me in a wholehearted welcome to our new friend and neighbor, Blade Dynamics. Our open and encouraging attitude will go a long way toward ensuring their long term success both for individuals undertaking new career paths and for the company as a whole. Their success will undoubtedly create additional interest in the site that will help us continue to grow and thrive as a community.

*Sincerely,
Raymond Vogel
Director of Business Development, Jacobs Technology*

Have contact with a company that you think could join the MAF community? <http://maximo.pro/mafprospects/mafprospects.html>

Have a good idea for ways to make our site better?
<http://www.IdeasForMAF.com>

Employee Spotlight

On May 31, while Dana Miller was attending a Memorial Day picnic at her friend's home everyone was enjoying the holiday and having a good time, including swimming in the backyard built-in pool.



Dana Miller

As she got out of the pool and started drying off she looked and saw a three-year-old child unattended and unable to swim at the bottom of the pool. She instantly reacted by jumping into the pool and dove to the bottom to grab the young child.

As she lifted the child out of the water she began emergency rescue procedures for the drowning victim. After turning the child over and giving several back blows, the child started spitting up water and began breathing again. Her instant action saved the life of the baby while the young mother of the child was totally oblivious of what had just transpired.

Her actions that day are nothing short of heroic and she joins the ranks of an elite group of people known as Life Savers. If you know of a MAF employee who should be in the spotlight, email john.filostrat@nasa.gov

Spraul Snags Snoopy



MAF's Integration and Operations Support Lead Cynthia Spraul (center) received the coveted Silver Snoopy Award from astronaut T.J. Creamer (left) and Marshall Space Flight Center Director Robert Lightfoot (right) Aug. 25 in Huntsville, Ala. Spraul received the prestigious Snoopy award for her work in transitioning MAF into a multi-tenant facility without impacting the ongoing External Tank Program.

Hitting the Mark



During an all hands meeting Aug. 18, Jacobs Technology MSFOC General Manager Mike Dawson compliments the MAF workforce for their high level of performance. The MSFOC team merited high marks for the first and second periods of the contract. Jacobs was awarded the manufacturing support facilities operations contract in May 2009.

Orion Moves to Building 404

Lockheed Martin moved its Orion Ground Test Article (GTA) from building 103 to 404 in August for testing. The MSFOC team is supporting Lockheed as it builds the next generation space crew capsule at the Michoud Assembly Facility.



Letters from Leadership

On Aug. 17 the Governor, the Mayor and other dignitaries were at MAF to celebrate the agreement signed by the State, NASA, and the Blade Dynamics commercial team. While this is significant for the state and the local area in terms of jobs, green energy, and tax revenue, it is an even more significant accomplishment on the part of the NASA and Jacobs team.

For MAF, it represented a milestone in the transformation of the facility that you have all been working so diligently on for the last year. The agreement between NASA and Blade Dynamics is the first in what I hope to be a long list of successful ventures to bring commercial companies into MAF to make use of the excess capacity of this wonderful facility. These types of arrangements, in scope and scale, are new to MAF and in many respects, new to NASA. We are pushing the edge of the envelope within NASA and that is a difficult thing to do. But you have all helped make this happen. For me, the event was a celebration of what YOU can do, and I couldn't be more pleased. I may have been one of the people up on the podium with the Governor, but it was not about me. I was representing the hard work of all of you.

A big thank you and job well done goes out to all of the personnel who worked hard to make the event a success and who worked diligently over the last year to get us to this event. The ground crews and facilities team made the place look beautiful, and the setup worked perfectly. The security team did an outstanding job managing the traffic and efficiently moving all of the dignitaries and their parties through the badging process and on and off the site. The Public Affairs team had their hands full with the protocol arrangements for the Governor, the Mayor, State Representatives, and other local dignitaries. It was no easy feat and it all worked flawlessly. Finally, the NASA and Jacobs Business Development Team worked tirelessly for the last year to bring this deal to the table.

The future of MAF depends upon our collective ability to reduce the cost to NASA for the operation of the facility. Bringing in commercial tenants like Blade Dynamics is one of the ways to do that. Every member of this NASA/Jacobs team has played a part either directly or indirectly in the success of this particular venture, and I look forward to the next one. Pat yourself on the back for a job well done, you deserve it.

— Steve Doering
Michoud Assembly Facility Transition Manager and Acting COO

Einstein Elementary Summer Career Day



MSFOC employee Chip Howat addressed students at Einstein Elementary's Career Day July 27. Students counted down with the replay of a space shuttle launch and viewed video of the International Space Station and orbiter landing. The students were encouraged to work hard in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) disciplines.

Security Officer Retires After 23 Years



Chief Larry Primeaux (right) of Coastal Security congratulates Officer William "Bill" Baldwin (left), who recently retired after more than 23 years at the Michoud Assembly Facility. Members of the security and fire departments held a retirement party for Baldwin July 29. Coastal Security employs 80 dedicated security professionals at MAF.

Hurricane Hotlines

When a storm approaches and an evacuation is called or once the storm has passed, you can get the latest information from these sources:

- MAF information line – (800) 611-3116 or (504) 257-1MAF
- MAF Status website – <http://mafstatus.com>
- Local news media

Tip: Program the numbers into your cell phone and bookmark the website in your personal computers now!

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Michoud Assembly Facility

13800 Old Gentilly Rd.
New Orleans, LA 70129
<http://maf.msfc.nasa.gov>

www.nasa.gov

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Acting MAF COO: Steve Doering

Editors: John Filostrat and Angela Storey

Layout/Design: Shannon Jurado

Photographers: Chip Howat and Steven Seipel

Contributors: Lockheed Martin

